

ARMY SIGNAL CORPS—SUBVERSION AND ESPIONAGE

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1954

UNITED STATES SENATE,
PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met at 2:30 p. m., pursuant to recess, in room 318, Senate Office Building, Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senator Joseph R. McCarthy, Republican, Wisconsin; Senator Karl E. Mundt, Republican, South Dakota; Senator John L. McClellan, Democrat, Arkansas; Senator Henry M. Jackson, Democrat, Washington; and Senator Stuart Symington, Democrat, Missouri.

Present also: Roy M. Cohn, chief counsel; Robert Francis Kennedy, chief counsel to minority; Francis P. Carr, executive director; Daniel G. Buckley, assistant counsel; James Juliana, investigator; and Ruth Y. Watt, chief clerk.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

Have the record show that all of the members of the subcommittee were notified of the time and place of the hearing, that the hearing was scheduled for this morning originally, but because some Senators felt they could not attend, it was shifted to this afternoon.

Who is your first witness, Mr. Cohn?

Mr. COHN. Mrs. Annie Lee Moss.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Moss? Will you raise your right hand and be sworn. In this matter now in hearing before the committee, do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

Mrs. Moss. I do.

TESTIMONY OF MRS. ANNIE LEE MOSS (ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSEL, GEORGE F. C. HAYES, WASHINGTON, D. C.)

Mr. COHN. May we get your full name for the record?

Mrs. Moss. Annie Lee Moss.

Mr. COHN. M-o-s-s?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And where do you reside now?

Mrs. Moss. 1244 Evarts Street NE.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Moss, let me say for the record, and for your information, for the information of your counsel, that you are not here because you were considered important in the Communist apparatus. We have the testimony that you are or have been a Communist.

We are rather curious, though, to know how someone like yourself, who is known to your superiors to have a Communist record, how you suddenly were shifted from a worker in a cafeteria to the code room. In other words, I am today much more interested in the handling of your case by your superiors than in your own personal activities. However, counsel will question you about your own activities.

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. I will not hear from counsel. You have been told what the rule is. If you have anything to say, say it through your client.

Mr. COHN. Mr. Chairman, I do want to put into the record at this time the statement you ordered in connection with the Federal Telecommunications Laboratories. As you know, there has been considerable testimony showing Communist infiltration and lax security conditions at the Federal Telecommunications Laboratories. We think in all fairness the record should likewise indicate that the security department presently functioning there under the direction of Mr. Robert Chasen, who is a former special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has done a superb job in cleaning out Communists at the FTL, and in taking proper security measures to prevent the recurrence of a situation such as we had there before. I think Mr. Chasen and Mr. Kane, Ed Kane, who is the security manager there, deserve commendation, not only for the cleanup job they have been doing, but also for the splendid cooperation they have given to the committee.

The CHAIRMAN. I may say, Mr. Cohn, that I agree heartily. I have been very, very favorably impressed by the present security setup over at Federal Telecommunications Lab. I have been very pleasantly impressed and I might say somewhat surprised, at the complete all-out cooperation that our committee has been getting from Federal Telecommunications Lab.

Mr. COHN. Now, Mrs. Moss, have you been employed by the Department of the Army at the Pentagon?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, I have.

Mr. COHN. And when did you commence that employment? When did you start working there?

Mrs. Moss. December 18, 1950.

Mr. COHN. December 18, 1950. And where did you work before that?

Mrs. Moss. I had been out of work for a long time, but I worked for a shorter period from about May until about the 28th of August at Elite Laundry.

Mr. COHN. When was your last Government job before you went with the Pentagon?

Mrs. Moss. The General Accounting Office.

Mr. COHN. In the General Accounting Office. Did you begin work at the General Accounting Office in 1945?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Mr. COHN. And prior to that time had you been a cafeteria worker?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, I had.

Mr. COHN. And in the year 1953 do you recall where you lived?

Mrs. Moss. Yes. Up until June 23, 1954, I lived in the vicinity from 525½ Second Street NE.

Mr. COHN. Second Street NE?

Mrs. MOSS. Second Street NE, and for a 2-week period we lived in the 600 block of Second Street.

Mr. COHN. And you were a cafeteria worker, is that right?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, I was.

Mr. COHN. While in the Pentagon, since 1950, have you had any connection with coded messages? Have you ever handled coded messages?

Mrs. MOSS. No more than to transmit them.

Mr. COHN. Pardon me?

Mrs. MOSS. No more than to transmit the messages.

Mr. COHN. No more than to transmit them?

Mrs. MOSS. Receive or to transmit messages was all I had to do. And in the code room, I have never been in the code room in my life.

Mr. COHN. Did you transmit coded messages?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, I did.

Mr. COHN. And were some of those coded messages classified?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, I assume all classified messages was coded.

Mr. COHN. They were all classified?

Mrs. MOSS. I assume they were coded messages, classified messages coded.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you know the type of classification? Do you know if they were secret, top secret, confidential?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, you would not know the degree of classification?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

Mr. COHN. You say you transmitted these messages; is that right?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Mr. COHN. Did you ever have any messages in clear text?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, there is a very few in clear text.

Mr. COHN. There was some in clear text that you handled; is that right?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And you handled those as well as the coded messages?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And which you transmitted?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Mr. COHN. For how long a period of time did you have access to these coded messages which you transmitted and to these messages in clear text, from 1950 until when? When did you start and when did you stop?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, it was 1951 when they started, because I started on the 18th day of December. We were in training for 6 weeks, and I think that would make us in January. I think that would put it in January.

Mr. COHN. Is it correct that there was a period of time after you went to work when you were awaiting clearance?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And you did not work on these messages then?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir; we were in training.

Mr. COHN. But after you got clearance, I think in 1951, you began working on these coded messages and clear text messages?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And you continued doing that work until some short time ago?

Mrs. Moss. Yes. That is right.

Mr. COHN. Then, I believe, around the period of time you were called before the committee, they changed you over to the supply room; is that right?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Mr. COHN. And after the committee held some hearings you were suspended?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Mr. COHN. I see.

Now, Mrs. Moss, you have told us you lived from 1943—

Mrs. Moss. Four.

Mr. COHN. I am getting back to 1942 and 1943. You told us that you lived on Second Street NE. and you were a cafeteria worker and of course your name is Annie Lee Moss. The committee has had testimony with which I know you and your counsel are familiar to the effect that you were at that time a member of the Northeast Club of the Communist Party. Is that testimony true?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; it is not; not at any time have I been a member of a Communist Party and I have never seen a Communist card.

Mr. COHN. You have never even seen a Communist card?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Mr. COHN. Have you ever attended any Communist meetings?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I have never attended any Communist meetings.

Mr. COHN. Have you ever subscribed to the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. I didn't subscribe to the Daily Worker and I wouldn't pay for it.

The CHAIRMAN. Will the photographers please—. While the witness is testifying, I wonder if you would not get between her and counsel. I wish you would not take flash pictures while she is testifying.

Would you rather not have your picture taken while you are testifying?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Then will you gentlemen move to one side?

As I said many times before, I know you young men have a job, and you are sent over to take pictures.

PHOTOGRAPHER. Is it all right to take them without the flash?

The CHAIRMAN. You can take them if you do not use flashbulbs, but do not get between the witness and counsel.

Mrs. Moss, do I understand you to say that you have never been a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I have not.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Markward, who was working for the FBI, who joined the Communist Party under orders from the FBI, has testified that while she never met you personally at a Communist Party meeting, that your name was on the list of Communists who were paying dues. Can you shed any light upon that?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. I do not even know what the dues are or where they were paid.

The CHAIRMAN. Do I understand you have never paid any money to the Communist Party? Is that correct?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. You have never paid any dues to anyone whom you thought was collecting them for the Communist Party?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. And you have never attended any Communist meetings?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir; I have not.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Cohn.

Mr. COHN. With reference to your testimony about the Daily Worker, isn't it a fact that you regularly received the Daily Worker and that you arranged to receive it through Rob Hall, who was one of the leading Communists in the District of Columbia?

Mrs. MOSS. Rob Hall brought that paper to my house, where I was rooming, one Sunday morning, and my son tells me that my husband told him not to bring that paper back there any more. And he said he paid him for whatever he had, and he didn't bring it any more, and we didn't get this Communist paper any more until after we had moved southwest, at 72 R Street.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you know Robert Hall?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir; not personally.

The CHAIRMAN. He came to your house, you say, one Sunday morning?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes. That is where I was rooming one Sunday.

The CHAIRMAN. Did your husband give Robert Hall any money that Sunday morning?

Mrs. MOSS. I wasn't there that morning.

The CHAIRMAN. You said your son told you something about it?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Did your son tell you whether or not Robert Hall collected money?

Mrs. MOSS. He told me his daddy gave him some money and told him not to come back there with those papers any more. In fact, he asked that my son sell those papers and his daddy said that he couldn't sell the papers, and he paid him for whatever he had. I don't know how many it was.

The CHAIRMAN. I think if you would not lean quite so close to the microphone, we could hear you better.

I have some difficulty hearing you. Is your husband living?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir; he is dead.

The CHAIRMAN. And you say you personally did not know Robert Hall?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That you were not there when he came to the house?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you know what business Robert Hall had with your husband besides merely delivering the copy of the Daily Worker?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir; I do not.

The CHAIRMAN. I am afraid I am going to have to excuse myself. I have a rather important appointment tonight which I have to work on right now. I wonder, Senator Mundt, if you would take over as chairman.

Senator MUNDT. All right.

(At this point the chairman left the hearing room.)

Senator MUNDT (presiding). Let us go back to the time that Robert Hall came to your home Sunday morning. Did you see him at that time?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not see him at that time. In fact, I didn't remember the man's name until my son reminded me who he was. I had to ask him what was the man's name. But I didn't even remember his name. I remember seeing a Robert Hall around the union hall where we went to our union meetings, and I presumed he was the same man.

Senator MUNDT. I am talking now about the Sunday morning when this man came to your home and left the Daily Worker.

Mrs. Moss. No, I wasn't there.

Senator MUNDT. You weren't there?

Mrs. Moss. No, I wasn't there.

Senator MUNDT. You did not see him?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. But I knew it was a Robert Hall around the union hall.

Senator MUNDT. Who did he leave the papers with that Sunday morning?

Mrs. Moss. My husband was there and the lady with whom we were rooming there.

Senator MUNDT. Then you say you did not get any more Daily Workers until you moved to a new address?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator MUNDT. Did you get some after that?

Mrs. Moss. We got some for—I don't know, just for maybe a short period. I don't know just how long it was. And then the man came to collect for them and I told him that I did not subscribe for that paper and I wasn't going to pay for it. Of course he raised quite a fuss about it and I told him to come back the next day and see my husband, and—

Senator SYMINGTON. I did not hear the question.

Mr. COHN. Would you read Senator Mundt's question?

(The reporter read from his notes as requested.)

Senator MUNDT. Do you want to finish?

Mrs. Moss. No; that is the answer. They didn't send it no more.

Senator MUNDT. The end of it was the word "and" so you were going to add something.

Mrs. Moss. Sir?

Senator MUNDT. The end of the sentence was the word "and."

Mrs. Moss. And he didn't come back.

Senator MUNDT. He did not come back?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. And we didn't get any more papers.

Senator MUNDT. You do not know whether that man was Mr. Hall or somebody else?

Mrs. Moss. That was a white gentleman.

Senator MUNDT. That was a what?

Mrs. Moss. That was a white gentleman.

Senator MUNDT. Is Mr. Hall a colored gentleman?

Mrs. Moss. This was a white gentleman who came to collect.

Senator MUNDT. I understand. But is Mr. Hall a colored gentleman?

Mrs. Moss. Yes. The one whom I saw was colored.

Senator MUNDT. These papers that came to you at this new address which was 14th and L Street, were they delivered by messenger boy or brought around in person or sent through the mail?

Mrs. Moss. 14th and L?

Senator MUNDT. How did you get the Communist Daily Workers that came to your new address?

Mrs. Moss. They came through the mail.

Senator MUNDT. Addressed to you or your husband?

Mrs. Moss. I don't know. I don't know which one they were addressed to. I didn't even read the paper.

Senator MUNDT. Can you not remember?

Mrs. Moss. They might have been addressed to me. I guess they was. I don't remember who they were addressed to. But I will say they was addressed to me.

Senator MUNDT. You cannot remember if they were, but you think they might have been addressed to you?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir. I think so. I will take that.

Mr. COHN. For how long a period of time did you receive these Daily Workers?

Mrs. Moss. I don't know. It wasn't for too long.

Senator MUNDT. I believe you are leaning back too far now. Come up part way.

Mrs. Moss. It wasn't for too long.

Mr. COHN. It was not for too long a period of time. You knew the Daily Worker was a Communist paper, did you not?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. I sure didn't.

Mr. COHN. Well, when you read it, wasn't it pretty clear to you?

Mrs. Moss. I didn't read it, because I don't read any newspaper very much.

Mr. COHN. I see. And when it came to your house, you would not read it, is that right?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Mr. COHN. I am not quite clear on this: Did Robert Hall ever talk to you about the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. Because I only saw Robert Hall around that union place.

Mr. COHN. He never talked to you about the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Mr. COHN. Well, Mrs. Moss, isn't it a fact that when you testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in executive session you said under oath that Robert Hall had talked to you about the Daily Worker and told you it was a good paper?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I have no knowledge of that. The man who came to collect told me it was a good paper.

Senator SYMINGTON. Mr. Chairman, I do not know what the importance of the fact whether or not the Daily Worker was or was not read is. Is the purpose to show that the Daily Worker, if you read it, that you are subversive?

Mr. COHN. Senator, what we are trying to bring out is this: First of all, Robert Hall was one of the three top Communists in the Communist Party of the District of Columbia. We felt there was significance to the fact that Robert Hall had come to the home of Mrs. Moss

and persuaded her or somebody in her house to subscribe to the Daily Worker. Furthermore, there is a direct conflict in the testimony here this afternoon and the testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities where she stated that Hall described to her that the Daily Worker was a good paper.

Senator SYMINGTON. May I suggest that she be asked how many times she ever saw Mr. Hall?

Mr. COHN. About how many times did you see Mr. Hall?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, each time I went to the union meeting.

Mr. COHN. Could you estimate for Senator Symington over what period of time you knew Mr. Hall, about how many times you had seen him during that period?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, I believe the union meetings met about once a month. But I didn't go to every meeting.

Senator MUNDT. Did you know that Mr. Hall was a Communist?

Mrs. MOSS. I beg your pardon?

Senator MUNDT. Did you know that Mr. Hall was a Communist?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir. I never had heard of communism until 1948 when this first hearing came up, and I asked them then what was that.

Senator MUNDT. You had not heard about communism?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

Senator JACKSON. Mrs. Moss, what union meeting are you referring to?

Mrs. MOSS. It was the cafeteria union.

Senator JACKSON. Cafeteria union?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes.

Senator JACKSON. Affiliated with what labor organization?

Mrs. MOSS. CIO.

Senator JACKSON. Where were you born?

Mrs. MOSS. Chester, S. C.

Senator JACKSON. Did you grow up in South Carolina?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, I lived in South Carolina until I was a good sized girl and then we moved to North Carolina, Salisbury, N. C.

Senator JACKSON. Did you go to school in South Carolina?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, sir.

Senator JACKSON. And North Carolina?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, sir.

Senator JACKSON. How far did you get along in school?

Mrs. MOSS. I didn't finish high school.

Senator JACKSON. You didn't finish high school?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

Senator JACKSON. Was your husband a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir.

Senator JACKSON. While you were living out in Northeast did you join any organization back in 1943 or 1944?

Mrs. MOSS. None but the union. And we had to join that in order to work.

Senator JACKSON. You do not think you might have joined some other organization that you did not know about?

Mrs. MOSS. No, sir. I have no knowledge of any other organization other than the union, the cafeteria union.

Senator JACKSON. You do not recall joining any organization that met in homes?

Mrs. Moss. I haven't met any in anybody's home at any time. I haven't been to a meeting in anyone's home.

Senator JACKSON. In any church?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; not to a church, either.

Senator JACKSON. I don't mean a church meeting, but I mean a group that may have met in a church.

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator JACKSON. You have no recollection of having joined anything other than your union?

Mrs. Moss. That is right, and we had to join that. After we had worked awhile, they came around and gave us blanks. In other words, they assembled us all in one room.

Senator JACKSON. Did anyone ever ask you to join anything?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; nothing other than this union.

Senator JACKSON. And how long did you stay in the union?

Mrs. Moss. I started working for the cafeteria on December 30, 1943, and shortly after that we had been there some time, maybe about a month, and they came around with blanks and they assembled us all in one room and gave us these blanks and told us to fill out these union blanks, that we would have to belong to the union if we were going to work.

Senator JACKSON. What kind of a blank did you fill out?

Mrs. Moss. Well, it was a white blank paper and I did not understand it because I had never belonged to a union before.

Senator JACKSON. Did you read it?

Mrs. Moss. We didn't have time.

Senator JACKSON. You did not have time?

Mrs. Moss. No.

Senator JACKSON. Well, could that have been the Communist Party that you might have joined?

Mrs. Moss. I don't know.

Senator JACKSON. It might have been?

Mrs. Moss. I don't know. This union—I don't know whether it was Communist or not, all I know is that they took our dues out before our checks were issued.

Senator JACKSON. But it related to your work?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator JACKSON. But you did not read the blank paper?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. I had some words with Mr. Harris about that, because they were not giving me time to read it.

Senator JACKSON. Who presented the application blank to you?

Mrs. Moss. Mr. Harris.

Senator JACKSON. And who is Mr. Harris, for the record?

(The witness conferred with her counsel.)

Mrs. Moss. I guess—he was the spokesman for the union, I guess. And he was the one who was killed in 1947 by someone.

Senator JACKSON. Was he ever known as a Communist?

Mrs. Moss. I didn't know him as one.

Senator JACKSON. And then you paid dues to this organization?

Mrs. Moss. They took the dues out of our checks before they were made up.

Senator JACKSON. They took the dues out of your check?

Mrs. MOSS. Before they were made up.

Senator JACKSON. Then I assume it must have been a union, then—

Mrs. MOSS. That is right. It is a union.

Senator JACKSON. If they took it out of your paycheck.

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Senator JACKSON. You worked for a private organization that serviced the Government cafeterias?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right. It is the welfare and recreation association.

Senator JACKSON. But that is a private organization, business organization?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes. It is 1135 21st Street NW.

Senator JACKSON. And they had in effect a checkoff system on dues?

Mrs. MOSS. That is right.

Senator JACKSON. That is all. Mr. Kennedy has something.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mrs. MOSS, did you say you knew Rob Hall or did you not know Rob Hall?

Mrs. MOSS. I didn't know him personally. I wasn't a personal friend of his. I saw him around the union hall.

Mr. KENNEDY. But you never met him personally?

Mrs. MOSS. I guess I have spoke to him, but he wasn't a personal friend of mine.

Mr. KENNEDY. Was he the one who brought the Daily Workers to your home, or was that somebody else?

Mrs. MOSS. My son said it was somebody else.

Mr. KENNEDY. Was it Mr. Hall?

Mrs. MOSS. Yes.

Mr. KENNEDY. Did he signify it was the same Mr. Hall that you saw around the union hall?

Mrs. MOSS. Well, now, I don't know—

Mr. KENNEDY. Did you feel at that time it was the same?

Mrs. MOSS. I felt it was the same man.

Mr. KENNEDY. Who came and collected the money at a later date?

Mrs. MOSS. This was a white gentleman who came to collect the money.

Mr. KENNEDY. Was Mr. Hall a colored gentleman, or—

Mrs. MOSS. Yes, sir.

Mr. KENNEDY. There is some confusion about it, is there not, Mr. COHN? Is the Rob Hall we are talking about the union organizer, was he a white man or colored man?

Mr. COHN. I never inquired into his race. I am not sure. We can check that, though.

Mr. KENNEDY. I thought I just spoke to you about it.

Mr. COHN. My assumption has been that he is a white man, but we can check that.

Senator SYMINGTON. Let us ask this: The Bob Hall that you knew, was he a white man?

Mrs. MOSS. He was colored, the one I knew of.

Senator SYMINGTON. Let's decide which Robert Hall we want to talk about.

Mr. KENNEDY. When you spoke about the union organizer, you spoke about Rob Hall and I think we all felt that was the colored gentleman?

Mr. COHN. I was not talking about a union organizer, Bob. I was talking about a Communist organizer who at that time, according to the public record, was in charge of subscriptions for the Daily Worker in the District of Columbia area.

Mr. KENNEDY. Evidently it is a different Rob Hall.

Mr. COHN. I don't know that it is. Our information is that it was the same Rob Hall.

Senator McCLELLAN. If one is black and the other is white, there is a difference.

Mr. COHN. I think that might better be something we should go into and get some more exact information on.

Mr. KENNEDY. I think so, too.

Mr. COHN. As far as our information here, it is that Mrs. Moss testified in executive session that Rob Hall was the one who had come with this Daily Worker subscription, and Rob Hall at that time was the man in charge of the Daily Worker in the District of Columbia. We assume that that is the same Rob Hall.

Mr. KENNEDY. Maybe we could check it.

Mr. COHN. If there is another one, or anything like that, we will certainly explore the possibility.

Senator SYMINGTON. Is the Robert Hall that you know a colored man?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. You are sure of that?

Mrs. Moss. Yes; I think—I am pretty sure that he was colored.

Senator SYMINGTON. Does he look like a colored man or does he look more like a white man?

Mrs. Moss. The man I have in mind as Robert Hall was a man about my complexion.

Senator SYMINGTON. About your complexion.

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. It is fair to think that you did not think he was a white man, is it not?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I didn't.

Senator SYMINGTON. One of the reporters says that he is certain that Robert Hall of the Daily Worker is a white man. I would like to put that into the record.

Mr. COHN. Were you present—let me approach it this way: Were you present on that morning when your son says Robert Hall came to your house with the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. No.

Mr. COHN. You were not present then?

Mrs. Moss. I was not there.

Mr. COHN. And you do not know, in other words, whether the Robert Hall who came to your house with the Daily Worker subscriptions was a white or colored person, as you did not see him. Is that right?

Mrs. Moss. I did not see him, but I assume it is the one I had seen around the union hall.

Mr. COHN. When you were told that a Robert Hall had come to get subscriptions for the Daily Worker, you assumed it was the same Robert Hall you had seen around the—

Mrs. Moss. Around the union hall.

Mr. COHN. But you were not present and did not see him and you don't know whether it is the same one or different one?

Mrs. Moss. That is right. I assumed it was the same man.

Senator SYMINGTON. I would like to make this clear in your interest, as I see it. If the Robert Hall that you knew was a colored man, then it is fair to say that the Robert Hall that the committee felt was the one you knew, and had any conversations with, was not the Robert Hall that you knew, is that right?

Mrs. Moss. Yes.

Mr. COHN. Let me ask you this, to carry this one step further. We know why Robert Hall would be a likely one to come around with subscriptions for the Daily Worker. Do you have any reason to know why this Robert Hall who was colored and was in the union, and as far as we know not in the Communist Party, would come around and ask you to subscribe or your family to subscribe to the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. I did not understand your question.

Mr. COHN. My question is simply this: Can you tell us why, assuming there are two Robert Halls here, can you tell us why this Robert Hall who was in the union would come around and ask your family to subscribe to the Daily Worker? Did you know him to be a Communist?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Mr. COHN. You did not know him to be a Communist?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Mr. COHN. I see. All right.

Senator MUNDT. Did you ever ask the Robert Hall who was in the union whether he was the man who came and talked to your son about these Daily Workers?

Mrs. Moss. I didn't discuss it with him.

Senator MUNDT. You never discussed with the Robert Hall in the union—

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator MUNDT. As to whether or not he was the Robert Hall who had come to your house?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Senator MUNDT. Any other questions?

Senator McCLELLAN. Did you give the name of the white man who came to collect for the Daily Worker?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Senator McCLELLAN. Do you know his name?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I never seen him before. I had not seen him before.

Senator McCLELLAN. Do you know whether his name was Robert Hall?

Mrs. Moss. It might have been. He didn't tell me his name.

Senator McCLELLAN. He did not tell you his name?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. He just started raising a fuss with me about it, and I told him to come back the next day to see my husband.

Senator McCLELLAN. If his name was Robert Hall, it is not the Robert Hall you knew?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Mr. COHN. Could you tell us this one thing, Mrs. Moss. You say now this Robert Hall, whichever one it was, never talked to you about the Daily Worker, is that right?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; he did not.

Mr. COHN. Could you explain why you told the House committee that Robert Hall had described the Daily Worker as a good paper?

Mrs. Moss. Well, that was the man who came to—I am speaking of the man who came to collect for the paper. He was trying to explain to me that it was a good paper, in order for me to pay for the paper.

Mr. COHN. That was the white man who came to collect?

Mrs. Moss. That was the white man. I don't know what his name was.

Mr. COHN. The question was, "What did Robert Hall say to you about the Daily Worker?" Your answer was, "Well, he described it as a good paper."

Mrs. Moss. That was the gentleman who collected, or who came to collect, and didn't get it.

Senator McCLELLAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to have the witness describe for the record just exactly what her duties are for the Government so we can have some impression as to whether she is in a sensitive position or whether, assuming that the charges made against her are true, she was in any position to do any harm. While I am opposed to any Communist being in Government, it has not been established to my satisfaction that this woman is a Communist.

I would like to know a little about the position, the nature of your work, exactly what you do. I see you only get a salary of about \$3,300 a year, which is a very low salary, I think, for any responsible position.

Mrs. Moss. I am a clerk-typist in the supply room.

Senator McCLELLAN. Just what physical work do you perform with respect to these messages?

Mrs. Moss. Well, they have what they call project cards.

Senator McCLELLAN. What?

Mrs. Moss. Project cards.

Senator McCLELLAN. Project cards.

Mrs. Moss. And on there you type maybe so many light bulbs, so many light sockets, so many automobile batteries, or something like that. That is the nature of it.

Senator McCLELLAN. Is that the nature of the work you have been doing?

Mrs. Moss. That is what they transferred me to do.

Senator JACKSON. Just prior to that, what were you doing?

Senator McCLELLAN. What were you doing prior to that? I am talking about when this question arose as to your employment. What were you doing then? The nature of that work is what I want to know.

Mrs. Moss. Transmitting messages.

Senator McCLELLAN. How did you transmit them? How did they come in and how did you transmit them? I would like to know just what duties you were performing.

Mrs. Moss. They came in on a circuit.

Senator McCLELLAN. A what?

Mrs. Moss. A circuit. They came in on a circuit.

Senator McCLELLAN. A circuit?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir; and the operator at the circuit, when this message was finished, there would be a Z at the end of it. This operator would take this message off and there is a number on the end of the message that corresponds with a pad that sits in this position [indicating] and this pad also has a number on it. And she crosses this number off, for the person to sign there. If it is a long message, you roll it up and hang it on a string. We have no more to do with it because there is someone to route it out.

Senator McCLELLAN. You have nothing to do with routing it out?

Mrs. Moss. I did at first. When I first started out, I had to route some of it out, too.

Senator McCLELLAN. You had to handle that?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. Did that require any knowledge of what the message contained?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. The one who received it from the circuit put a mark on it or something to indicate where it was to go?

Mrs. Moss. Just put a mark on it, to mark it off, to indicate that the message came in. We would not have an open number on the pad. And then they would roll it up and put it up on a string. The person that is going to route it out, I don't care where it is going, where it is going to is in plain text.

Senator McCLELLAN. Where it is going to is what?

Mrs. Moss. Is in plain text.

Mr. HAYES. In plain text.

Senator McCLELLAN. You mean written out so that anyone would know where it is going?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator McCLELLAN. Was there any way for you to know what the contents of those messages were?

Mrs. Moss. There is no way in the world you would know.

Senator McCLELLAN. Did you have time to decipher?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. It was simply as a matter of routine, a mechanical process after they were received, getting them moving to their proper destination?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator McCLELLAN. And that is all you did?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir; that is all.

Senator McCLELLAN. Now, prior to the time you went to work for the Government, when you were working in the cafeteria, would you mind telling me what your salary was then, or what your earnings were?

Mrs. Moss. When I first started at the General Accounting Office, my salary was \$1,200, I believe.

Senator McCLELLAN. How many years ago?

Mrs. Moss. That was—

Senator McCLELLAN. We can shorten this. What were your earnings just before you went into this Government position?

Mrs. Moss. Well, it was about \$45 every 2 weeks.

Senator McCLELLAN. \$45?

Mrs. Moss. Every 2 weeks.

Senator McCLELLAN. Every 2 weeks. So you did have some increase. In other words, the Government job did pay more than you were earning?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator McCLELLAN. Did you take a civil service examination to qualify for the position?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. Then you were called into service on the basis of the examination you had taken?

Mrs. Moss. Not by the General Accounting Office. We did not take an examination for the General Accounting Office.

Senator McCLELLAN. You did?

Mrs. Moss. I did not. I had to take one—

Senator McCLELLAN. I am talking about this position for the Army.

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. For the Army?

Senator McCLELLAN. Yes.

Mrs. Moss. Yes. I had to take a civil service examination. In fact, I passed the civil service examination during the time I was working for the General Accounting Office, as a machine operator exam.

Senator McCLELLAN. How long before you actually began this employment had you taken this civil service examination and qualified for it?

Mrs. Moss. I was a machine operator before I took the examination.

Senator McCLELLAN. You were a machine operator?

Mrs. Moss. At the General Accounting Office. I worked on a machine there, too.

Senator McCLELLAN. Then you took a civil service examination for the position you got in the Army?

Mrs. Moss. Well, I had took the civil service examination before I left the General Accounting Office, and when I went to the employment office, looking for work, which I went to many of them, I had to take the machine-operator's rating, and then they would make an account of it, and make me up a record, and then I would have to go back time after time.

Senator McCLELLAN. Did any one from any organization, a Communist organization or any other, help you in getting this position with the Army?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. Did you have any sponsor or any assistance other than your qualifications and eligibility under the civil service regulations?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator McCLELLAN. You got the position on your own efforts?

Mrs. Moss. On my own.

Senator McCLELLAN. Plus your qualifications and civil service status?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator McCLELLAN. I believe that is all.

Senator MUNDT. Senator Symington?

Senator SYMINGTON. Yes.

Mrs. Moss, what are you doing now? Are you working?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Why not?

Mrs. Moss. I was suspended.

Senator SYMINGTON. You were suspended?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir. Until this is over.

Senator SYMINGTON. By the—

Mrs. Moss. By the Department of the Army.

Senator SYMINGTON. Department of the Army?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. How long ago was that?

Mrs. Moss. I believe it was—

(The witness conferred with her counsel.)

Mrs. Moss. The 25th of February.

Senator SYMINGTON. What reason did they give for suspending you?

Mr. HAYES. Would you like to see it, Mr. Symington?

Senator SYMINGTON. We can make it a part of the record. But I would like the witness to answer it.

Mrs. Moss. "The immediate suspension is deemed necessary and advisable in the interest of national security under the authority of Public Law 733, 81st Congress, and Executive Order 10-450, pending adjudication of your case under AR 620-220-1."

Senator McCLELLAN. Did you read that the very best you could?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir; I did.

Senator SYMINGTON. Have you ever, to the best of your knowledge have you ever talked to a Communist in your life?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; not to my knowledge.

Senator SYMINGTON. Did you ever hear of Karl Marx?

Mrs. Moss. Who is that?

Senator SYMINGTON. I will pass the question.

You were born in South Carolina and moved to North Carolina and then moved to Washington?

Mrs. Moss. That is right.

Senator SYMINGTON. Do you think you are a good American?

Mr. Moss. Yes.

Senator SYMINGTON. Would you ever do anything to hurt your country?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Have you ever talked to anybody about espionage?

Mrs. Moss. What?

(The witness conferred with her counsel.)

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Have you ever had any information that you received on your job that you passed on to anybody about these codes?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Did anybody ever ask you for any of that information?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. If they had, I would have reported it.

Senator SYMINGTON. You would have reported it?

Mrs. Moss. I certainly would have.

Senator SYMINGTON. Has anybody ever asked you to join the Communist Party?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Has anybody ever asked you to join any organization of any kind that you thought might be against the best interests of the United States?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. What are you living on now? Have you got any savings?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. You have not?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Where do you live?

Mrs. Moss. 1244 Evarts Street NE.

Senator SYMINGTON. When is your rent next due?

Mrs. Moss. Rent?

Senator SYMINGTON. Rent.

Mrs. Moss. We are buying the house.

Senator SYMINGTON. You are buying the house?

Mrs. Moss. Yes.

Senator SYMINGTON. Do you need work?

Mrs. Moss. Sure, I do.

Senator SYMINGTON. If you do not get work pretty soon, what are you going to do?

Mrs. Moss. I am going down to the welfare.

Senator SYMINGTON. Going down to the welfare?

Mrs. Moss. Yes.

Senator SYMINGTON. Have you applied for a position outside of the Army since you were suspended?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir. I have been sick in the bed under the doctor.

Senator SYMINGTON. Those are all the questions I have.

Senator MUNDT. Senator Jackson?

Mr. Kennedy?

Mr. KENNEDY. No questions.

Mr. COHN. Part of the testimony of Mrs. Markward was to the effect that another member of this club, and an active member of the Communist Party at that time, at whose home Communist meetings were held, was a woman named Hattie Griffin. Did you know Hattie Griffin?

Mrs. Moss. I lived with Hattie Griffin for 2 weeks.

Mr. COHN. At what address did you live with Hattie Griffin?

Mrs. Moss. It was in the 600 block of Second Street. I don't remember the number.

Mr. COHN. That is in accordance with Mrs. Markward's testimony as well.

Now, when you were living with Hattie Griffin during that 2-week period, did you know that she was a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Mr. COHN. Did you know that she was holding Communist meetings in her home?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I did not.

Mr. COHN. You did not know that?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Mr. COHN. She never told you that?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Did you ever discuss with this woman—you say you lived with her 2 weeks—did you ever discuss communism with her?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. In any way?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. At any time?

Mrs. Moss. Because I did not know anything about it. I never heard it until 1948.

Senator SYMINGTON. Was there anybody that she ever brought to the house for meetings?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; not while we were there.

Senator SYMINGTON. Never once?

Mrs. Moss. Not while we were there.

Mr. COHN. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions of this witness at this time. I will say this: We have the testimony of Mrs. Markward, the undercover agent for the FBI, stating that an Annie Lee Moss was a member, a dues-paying member of the Communist Party, the Northeast Club of the Communist Party. We have corroboration of that testimony by another witness who was called before the committee and gave a sworn statement to the effect that she also knew Mrs. Moss as a member of the Northeast Club of the Communist Party.

Senator McCLELLAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make this point: We are making statements here against a witness who has come and submitted to cross-examination. She has already lost her job. She has been suspended because of this action. I am not defending her. If she is a Communist, I want her exposed. But to make these statements that we have corroborating evidence that she is a Communist, under these circumstances, I think she is entitled to have it produced here in her presence and let the public know about it and let her know about it.

So, Mr. Chairman, I move that the evidence be produced.

Mr. COHN. Senator, if I might explain, the only person that evidence has not been produced; as we explained on the day it was developed, was the witness—

Senator McCLELLAN. I will tell you how I feel about it. I do not like to try people by hearsay evidence. I want to get the testimony under oath.

Senator MUNDT. The Chair will rule that the comment of Mr. Cohn be stricken from the record. I think we better take it up in executive session, whether we should try to produce a witness in public, because the FBI may have her under cover.

Senator McCLELLAN. I do not think it is fair to a witness, to a citizen of this country, to bring them up here and cross-examine them and when they get through, say, "The FBI has something on you that condemns you." It is not sworn testimony. It is convicting people by rumor and hearsay and innuendo.

Senator MUNDT. The counsel advises the Chair that it is sworn testimony.

In spite of that, I think it should be ruled from the record until we have had a chance in executive session to determine the testimony.

Senator SYMINGTON. I would like to ask the witness this, as long as it has been brought up.

Did you mention the name of Mrs. Markward?

Mr. COHN. Yes, Senator.

Senator SYMINGTON. Do you know anybody named Mrs. Markward?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I do not.

Senator SYMINGTON. I think the record ought to show that Mrs. Markward says that she has never seen Mrs. Annie Lee Moss at any Communist meeting. If there is anything in the record that should not be said, I won't say it. Otherwise, I would like to read into the record—could I have that back? I would like to read into the record the memorandum. Mrs. Markward has testified that Annie Lee Moss was registered with the Communist Party in 1943 and later her name was shifted over to the Communist Political Association of Washington for 1944. Mrs. Markward cannot recall ever having seen Mrs. Annie Lee Moss at any Communist Party meeting, but it is her recollection that Mrs. Moss paid her dues and was a member in good standing.

Have you ever paid any dues to anybody?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; and I have never seen a Communist card.

Senator SYMINGTON. Have you ever known anybody to the best of your knowledge that was a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir; I have not.

Senator SYMINGTON. Has anybody ever asked you to join the Communist Party?

Mrs. Moss. No, sir.

Senator SYMINGTON. Isn't it possible that there are some other people named Moss, just like apparently there are some other people named Hall?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir; that is true.

Senator SYMINGTON. Do you know anybody else in this town named Moss? Have you ever looked up a telephone number—are there any Mosses in Washington besides you?

Mrs. Moss. Yes, sir. There are three Annie Lee Mosses.

Senator JACKSON. Will you state that again?

Mrs. Moss. There are three Annie Lee Mosses. And when I went to get a real-estate license, I had an awful lot of trouble then. They asked me if I filled out my application for correct identification, and then from the real-estate commission they called me and asked me if I had ever lived in New Jersey, if I had two sisters living in New Jersey, or if I had ever lived in Maryland.

They had a record of an Annie Lee Moss.

Senator JACKSON. Are the other two Annie Lee Mosses, or three, are they white or colored?

Mrs. Moss. I don't know. I have never seen them.

Senator SYMINGTON. Mr. Chairman, is there another witness, I understand, who claims that she knew Mrs. Moss? The question in executive session will be whether or not her name should be released, is that right?

Senator MURKIN. The Chair is advised by counsel that another witness has provided sworn testimony to the effect that she knew an Annie Lee Moss as a member of the Communist Party; that that witness is in contact with the FBI. I think we should take it up in executive session and clear it with the FBI before we call her in public.

Senator SYMINGTON. Does the other witness know Mrs. Moss?

Senator MUNDT. I haven't read the testimony, Senator Symington. I have been handed the testimony right now, so I do not know. The counsel says "Yes."

Senator McCLELLAN. I feel this way, Mr. Chairman, that if we are taking testimony here to condemn people under circumstances like this, that testimony should not be revealed to the public unless we are going to produce it publicly, so the public can weigh it as well as let us weigh it and make comments on it.

Senator MUNDT. That is right. The Chair has suggested that it not be included as part of the record until we have a chance to determine whether we can call a witness without disclosing an undercover agent of the FBI, that they might not want to have disclosed at this time.

Senator McCLELLAN. If we cannot call the witness, I do not think we ought to refer to it in the public hearings and announce what the witness has sworn to some place else.

Senator SYMINGTON. Mrs. Moss, I want to say something to you, and I may be sticking my neck out and I may be wrong. But I have been listening to you testify this afternoon, and I think you are telling the truth.

Mrs. Moss. I certainly am.

Senator SYMINGTON. If you are not taken back into the Army (employment), you come around and see me, and I am going to see that you get a job.

Mrs. Moss. Thank you, sir.

Senator MUNDT. Any other questions or any other statements?

You may step down.

Mr. COHN: Is Mr. Saunders here?

Mr. John Saunders?

Senator MUNDT. Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give this committee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. SAUNDERS. I do.

TESTIMONY OF JOHN SAUNDERS

Senator MUNDT. State your name, please.

Mr. SAUNDERS. I would like to make a request of the press, first, please. I would like to request that the press not take any pictures or publicity.

Senator MUNDT. We will ask the photographers to discontinue pictures, please.

What is your full name, please?

Mr. SAUNDERS. John Saunders.

Senator MUNDT. What is your address?

Mr. SAUNDERS. 70 East Seventh Street, New York City.

Senator MUNDT. Where are you employed?

Mr. SAUNDERS. I am suspended at present.

Senator MUNDT. Where were you last employed?

Mr. SAUNDERS. Federal Telecommunications Lab.

Senator MUNDT. Proceed, Mr. Counsel.

Mr. COHN. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party, Mr. Saunders?